

In the United States Court of Federal Claims

OFFICE OF SPECIAL MASTERS

No. 16-921V

Filed: November 29, 2016

UNPUBLISHED

MELINDA HOLGATE,

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Petitioner,

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v.

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SECRETARY OF HEALTH
AND HUMAN SERVICES,

Ruling on Entitlement; Concession;
Influenza (“Flu”); Shoulder Injury
Related to Vaccine Administration
("SIRVA");
Special Processing Unit ("SPU")

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Respondent.

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Paul Brazil, Muller Brazil, LLP, Dresher, PA, for petitioner.

Linda Renzi, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, DC, for respondent.

RULING ON ENTITLEMENT¹

Dorsey, Chief Special Master:

On August 2, 2016, petitioner filed a petition for compensation under the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program, 42 U.S.C. §300aa-10, et seq.,² (the “Vaccine Act”). Petitioner alleges that she suffered a shoulder injury related to vaccine administration (“SIRVA”) in her right arm as a result of an influenza (“flu”) vaccination administered on September 29, 2015. Petition at 1. The case was assigned to the Special Processing Unit of the Office of Special Masters.

On November 28, 2016, respondent filed her Rule 4(c) report in which she concedes that petitioner is entitled to compensation in this case. Respondent’s Rule 4(c) Report at 1. Specifically, respondent concluded that petitioner’s alleged injury is consistent with a SIRVA and was caused-in-fact by the September 29, 2015 flu vaccination. *Id.* at 4. Respondent further agrees that petitioner has satisfied all legal prerequisites for compensation under the Vaccine Act. *Id.*

¹ Because this unpublished ruling contains a reasoned explanation for the action in this case, the undersigned intends to post it on the United States Court of Federal Claims’ website, in accordance with the E-Government Act of 2002. 44 U.S.C. § 3501 note (2012) (Federal Management and Promotion of Electronic Government Services). In accordance with Vaccine Rule 18(b), petitioner has 14 days to identify and move to redact medical or other information, the disclosure of which would constitute an unwarranted invasion of privacy. If, upon review, the undersigned agrees that the identified material fits within this definition, the undersigned will redact such material from public access.

² National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act of 1986, Pub. L. No. 99-660, 100 Stat. 3755. Hereinafter, for ease of citation, all “§” references to the Vaccine Act will be to the pertinent subparagraph of 42 U.S.C. § 300aa (2012).

In view of respondent's concession and the evidence before me, the undersigned finds that petitioner is entitled to compensation.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

s/Nora Beth Dorsey

Nora Beth Dorsey
Chief Special Master